

**Next Generation Grants**  
**Notice of Funding Availability**  
**CFDA No.: 94.007**  
**Deadline for Application: June 7, 2005**  
**Award Announcements: September 2005**

**Overview**

*Available Grants:* The Corporation for National and Community Service (hereinafter the "Corporation") announces the availability of approximately \$1,488,000 to award Next Generation Grants. The Corporation expects to make 5 to 10 awards that range in amounts from approximately \$100,000 to \$300,000 covering a period not to exceed 2 years.

*Purpose of Grants:* The purpose of these grants is to foster the next generation of national service organizations by providing seed money to organizations proposing new projects or programs that have the potential to become national in scope.

These grants will fund innovative strategies that effectively engage volunteers in service in the following two areas:

1. Engaging adults age 50+ in part-time and full-time service opportunities; and
2. Improving the lives of disadvantaged youth through service and mentoring.

*Eligible Applicants:* The Corporation wants to ensure that all eligible organizations are able to compete on an equal basis for federal financial assistance. The Corporation encourages all eligible public and private non-profit organizations including faith-based and other community-based organizations, to apply. Applicants who have received any previous grant award from the Corporation are not eligible for a Next Generation Grant. Applicants must also be able to develop programs that have the potential to become national in scope, or provide a compelling case that the model could be replicated in other locations. Applicants must propose one or both of the strategies listed above.

Applicants as defined by this announcement include the following:

1. Start-Up Organizations are organizations that have been operating for two years or less;
2. New Organizations are organizations that have been operating for two to five years; and
3. Established Organizations are organizations that have been operating for more than five years and are proposing a new project or program under this notice.

*Dates:* The deadline for eGrants submissions is 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on June 7, 2005. If you are unable to submit your application using eGrants, a paper application along with a diskette or CD Rom with an exact duplicate of your application must be received at the Corporation for National and Community Service, 1201 New York Avenue, NW, Attn: Next Generation Grants, Washington, DC 20525 by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on June 7, 2005. Applications submitted by fax or email will not be accepted.

*For Further Information:* This Notice, with the complete application, guidelines and other relevant material, is available on the Corporation's website at: <http://www.nationalservice.org/> under "Funding and Initiatives". The TDD number is 202-565-2799. Upon request, this information will be made available in alternative formats for persons with disabilities.

The Corporation will make awards covering a period not to exceed 2 years with continued funding beyond year one contingent upon satisfactory performance and other criteria established in the award agreement. These funds are available under authority of section 198 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 USC 12653) and the Omnibus Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2005. The Corporation intends to make awards beginning in September of 2005 and lasting through September of 2007.

NOTE: Publication of this announcement does not obligate the Corporation to award any specific number of grants or to obligate the entire amount of funds available, or any part thereof, for grants under the Next Generation Grants program.

## **FULL TEXT OF ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION**

#### **Background**

The Corporation is an independent Federal government grant-making agency that encourages Americans of all ages and backgrounds to engage in community service. This service addresses the nation's educational, public safety, environmental, homeland security and other human needs to achieve direct and demonstrable results. In addressing those needs, we strive to foster civic responsibility, strengthen the ties that bind us together as Americans, and provide educational opportunities for those who make a substantial commitment to service. We support a range of volunteer service programs, including AmeriCorps, Learn and Serve America, and Senior Corps.

The Corporation works to support volunteer community service and service learning at the local level and to support public and private non-profit organizations, including faith-based and other community-based organizations, that use volunteer service as a strategy for addressing national and community needs. Corporation-sponsored programs and projects focus on the mobilization of community resources and volunteers, support for faith-based and other community-based organizations, citizenship development, capacity building and organizational sustainability and foster an ethic of civic responsibility. The Corporation's service programs tap into and further develop the skills, talents, and experience of Americans to address a wide range of community challenges. Service participants and volunteers, working side-by-side, conduct safety patrols for local police departments, participate in environmental projects, provide intensive educational services to children and adults, serve one-on-one as tutors and mentors to young people, help homebound seniors and other adults maintain independence in their own homes, and respond to natural disasters, among other activities.

### **II. AWARD INFORMATION**

#### **1. Purpose of Program**

Consistent with its mission to support service to meet the nation's needs in communities throughout the country, and mindful of the intent of Congress for the use of these funds, the Corporation is making Next Generation Grants available to support innovative and demonstration national and community service proposals throughout the country. The intent of this funding is to help organizations implement innovative strategies or programs through service.

An applicant's proposal must include one or both of the following strategies:

1. Engaging adults age 50+ in part-time and full-time service opportunities; and
2. Improving the lives of disadvantaged youth through service and mentoring.

The Corporation defines disadvantaged youth as: “Youth who, because of certain characteristics, circumstances, experiences or insufficiencies, encounter financial, legal, social, educational, emotional and/or health problems and may have significant difficulties growing into adults who are responsible citizens, productive workers, involved members of communities, and good parents.”<sup>1</sup> For example, disadvantaged youth may include but are not limited to children of prisoners; youth gang members; youth status offenders; and foster youth.

The Corporation anticipates that applicants will thoroughly consider the needs of the community(ies) that they plan to serve. Applicants should structure a program with those needs, and the most effective and efficient use of volunteers to help serve those needs, in mind. Applicants should provide documentation of the described community need.

Although the Corporation has a specific interest in engaging baby boomers, an applicant is not limited to a particular age or type of volunteer or participant serving in the program it is proposing.

The following are examples of service priorities that an applicant may want to focus on: supporting the independent living of seniors and persons with disabilities; mentoring disadvantaged youth; supporting adult ex-offender reentry; assisting immigrant and refugee populations; and supporting rural and tribal populations. Intergenerational approaches to the prior examples are also encouraged.

#### Examples of Volunteer Activities

Next Generation Grants may be used for activities that will build sustainable service and volunteer programs in nonprofit organizations in the United States that address needs in the areas of education, health and other human needs, environment, public safety and homeland security.

The Corporation is especially interested in efforts that create high-impact volunteer opportunities that attract and engage baby boomers and others who are experimenting with new retirement life styles. This may include individuals changing careers/part-time work and volunteer activities that significantly impact their communities. These efforts may include a multiple menu of volunteer options ranging from episodic to intensive to meet a range of individual needs and preferences. Examples of activities that may be supported with this grant include:

- a. Engaging baby boomers in volunteer recruitment, training, and supervision activities;
- b. Expanding current service programs that engage baby boomers in service to new markets and/or audiences;
- c. Engaging baby boomers in support of schools and the education of children, both during the school day and after school;
- d. Baby boomers mentoring disadvantaged youth; and,
- e. Recruiting retired and working baby boomers from diverse occupations to support underserved communities that need their expertise. Some examples include but are not limited to: healthcare professionals and para-professionals, law enforcement professionals, firefighters, lawyers and paralegals, educators, social workers,

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<sup>1</sup> “The White House Task Force for Disadvantaged Youth: Final Report,” U. S. Department of Health and Human Services website, < <http://www.ncfy.com/whreport.htm>>.

accountants, managers, business owners, scientists and engineers, all volunteering their time and expertise to support non-profit community based organizations and schools to achieve their missions.

The Corporation is also interested in efforts that have the potential to significantly improve the life chances of disadvantaged youth. Examples of such programs include:

- a. Engaging adults in mentoring disadvantaged youth;
- b. Developing opportunities for youth to perform community service and service-learning;
- c. Expanding current service programs to new youth markets or audiences;
- d. Supporting schools and the education of children and youth, both during the school day and after school; and,
- e. Training and placing education professionals as volunteers in high need areas that have difficulty recruiting.

The above are only examples and activities. An applicant must propose activities that build sustainable service and volunteer programs in nonprofit organization(s). The applicant must provide a clear explanation for the use of the funds, including a description of the nature of new, improved or expanded citizen service and include the impact it will have to meet community needs.

The Corporation is seeking innovative ideas from applicants across all aspects of program design, implementation, and measurement. New or start-up organizations should develop operating strategies that include, but are not limited to those that:

- Engage volunteers in providing services that result in lasting positive changes to beneficiaries and participants;
- Describe how performance, including data and accomplishments, demonstrate the program's ability to achieve the anticipated outcomes;
- Use innovative and potentially successful strategies in recruiting, managing, and retaining volunteers, including using volunteer incentives (monetary and non-monetary) effectively;
- Expand the capacity of nonprofit organizations;
- Use innovative recruitment techniques or recruit from underrepresented areas including ethnic minorities or other special and underrepresented populations;
- Provide unique services or services targeted at hard-to-reach underserved populations; and,
- Develop systems that effectively manage a federal grant.

## **2. Requirements**

The funds must be used to cover the cost of volunteer program planning and implementation. Through the next generation grant funding, the grantee will plan, implement, and establish an innovative or demonstration program in the community(ies) in which it proposes to serve. The applicant will describe a planning structure that will work best for the proposed program, will propose a compelling community need and program design that will address the need,

demonstrate organizational capacity and program sustainability, and will provide ideas about effective ways to measure the outcomes and benefits to the community and service participants.

No Corporation funds may be used to provide an education award, stipend or living allowance to program participants in any program model. Stipends and living allowances are not required for this grant program, but are two different types of incentives for an intensive commitment to service that may be provided by the grantee. They are not wages, but are intended to provide a modest level of subsistence for volunteers who are devoting a substantial amount of their time in service. The Corporation has found that providing such incentives is one approach to ensuring that individuals of any economic background can make an intensive commitment to service. Applicants are encouraged to consider a range of incentives, cash and non-cash, in combination or alone, to allow individuals to make this intensive commitment.

### **III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION**

#### **1. Eligible Applicants**

Public and private non-profit organizations, including faith-based and other community-based organizations, shall be eligible to receive a grant under this subsection. Intermediary organizations may apply for this grant opportunity to perform the fiscal, administrative, and resource development activities for affiliated local sites which may lack the capacity to effectively perform these roles.

Applicants as defined by this announcement include the following:

1. Start-Up Organizations are organizations that have been operating for two years or less;
2. New Organizations are organizations that have been operating for two to five years; and
3. Established Organizations are organizations that have been operating for more than five years and are proposing a new project or program under this notice.

Applicants other than individual schools generally will have an annual operating budget of \$500,000 or less. The Corporation encourages all eligible public and private non-profit organizations, including faith-based and other community-based organizations, to apply. We also encourage submissions from organizations with little or no experience with federal grants, where our investment could dramatically increase community involvement in service. Applicants who have received any previous grant award from the Corporation are not eligible for a Next Generation Grant. For applications from intermediary organizations, neither the legal applicant nor any of the proposed program sites may have previously received a grant award from the Corporation. Applicants must also be able to develop programs that have the potential for becoming national in scope, or provide a compelling statement that the model could be replicated in other locations.

Pursuant to the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995, an organization described in section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(4) that engages in lobbying activities is

not eligible. A single organization may submit the same application only once. Applicants that have never received funding from the Corporation are eligible and encouraged to apply for funding under this Notice. Eligible faith-based and other community-based organizations are encouraged to apply.

The Corporation will make all final decisions concerning approval and awards based upon the quality of the applications and may require revisions to the grant proposal in order to achieve the objectives under this Notice.

## **2. Cost Sharing or Matching**

If the Corporation approves an application and enters into a multi-year award agreement, the Corporation will initially provide funding based only on the first year's budget. The Corporation has no obligation to provide additional funding. Additional funding is contingent upon satisfactory performance (including securing the applicable cash match), the availability of funds, and other criteria established in the award agreement.

A Next Generation Grant has characteristics and matching fund provisions that are distinct from other grant programs sponsored by the Corporation. Cash matches may be from private, non-governmental sources. Successful applicants (including intermediary organizations) under this notice will be required to leverage the matching funds as follows:

- Start-up Organizations (operating for 2 years or less) will be required to secure a cash match of 10% of the total approved budget within the first year of the program period;
- New Organizations (operating for less than 5 years) will be required to secure a cash match of 15% of the total approved budget within the first year of the program period; and
- Established Organizations (operating for 5 or more years) proposing new projects or programs will be required to secure a cash match of 25% of the total approved budget within the first year of the program period.

In addition:

- a. Applicants must demonstrate previous success in raising funds from the private sector. Applicants must also demonstrate the capacity to expand services greatly, or initiate new programs, through increases in the number of individuals engaged in service or volunteerism.
- b. Applicants should identify why a next generation grant from the Corporation is a critical source for helping to raise private sector funds.
- c. The Corporation will make awards covering a period not to exceed two years. Applicants must demonstrate how the grant will result in sustainable activities after the grant period ends.
- d. All organizations in existence for 2 or more years (New or Established) must submit evidence of past performance and outcomes.

Next Generation Grant funds provided by the Corporation, including matching funds, may not be used for fundraising, capital campaigns, building construction, endowments, or investments.

## IV. APPLICATION PROCEDURES

### 1. Address

Applications are to be submitted using eGrants, the Corporation's integrated, secure, web-based system for applications. To obtain and/or submit your application, please visit <http://www.nationalservice.org/egrants/index.html> to access eGrants. Application guidelines and instructions can be obtained through our website at <http://www.nationalservice.org> under “Funding and Initiatives”. Application guidelines and instructions also can be obtained by contacting the Corporation. Information on how to contact the Corporation can be found on our website: <http://www.nationalservice.org/contactus.html>.

### 2. Content and Form of Application Submissions

To develop your application, you need to carefully read this entire NOFA, the Next Generation Grants Application Instructions and any additional guidance given by the Corporation for National and Community Service regarding the Next Generation Grants. You may access all of this information at our website, [http://www.nationalservice.org/funding\\_initiatives/index.html](http://www.nationalservice.org/funding_initiatives/index.html). In addition to completing an on-line application, applicants must submit, in hardcopy form, all attachments specified in this NOFA and the Application Instructions.

Should there be any inconsistency between the NOFA and Application Instructions, the order of precedence is as follows:

1. NOFA
2. Application Instructions.

The Corporation requires that all applicants attempt to utilize the Corporation's web-based application system, eGrants, to submit applications electronically. Please go to <http://www.nationalservice.org/egrants/index.html> and establish an eGrants account to begin the process of submitting your application online. See section IV.3 below for additional eGrants guidance.

**Equal Opportunity Survey:** Applicants are also asked to complete the Survey on Ensuring Equal Opportunity for Applicants. You may complete the survey in eGrants while preparing your application for submission or contact the Corporation (see VII below) to obtain a copy.

**Universal Identifier:** Applications submitted for this competition must provide a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number. The DUNS number is known as the universal identifier and helps the federal government improve statistical reports on federal grants and cooperative agreements. The DUNS number will not replace the EIN. DUNS numbers may be obtained at no cost by calling the DUNS number request line at (866) 705-5711 or online at <http://www.dnb.com>. It may take up to 30 days to receive a DUNS number after applying for one. You must have this number to complete your eGrants application.



### 3. Submission Date and Time

**The deadline for eGrants submissions is 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on June 7, 2005.** If you are unable to submit your application using eGrants, a paper application along with a diskette or CD Rom with an exact duplicate of your application must be received at the Corporation for National and Community Service, 1201 New York Avenue, NW, Attn: Next Generation Grants, Washington, DC 20525 **by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on June 7, 2005.** If there are differences between the paper application and the diskette/CD Rom, we will use the diskette/CD Rom version.

You should contact the eGrants Help Desk immediately if a problem arises while you are creating your account and preparing, or submitting your application. In the event you are prevented from completing and submitting your application by the deadline because the eGrants system is unavailable or you are having technical eGrants submission issues, you must contact the eGrants Helpdesk at 888-677-7849 or 202-6060-5000 x533 or email at [egrantshelp@cns.gov](mailto:egrantshelp@cns.gov), prior to the 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time deadline to explain your technical issue and receive an eGrants ticket number.

You must then submit the following items *in hard copy* to the Corporation:

- A brief paragraph including your eGrants ticket number and your explanation of the technical issues that prevented you from submitting in eGrants by the deadline;
- A paper application; and
- A diskette or CD Rom with an exact duplicate of your application.

Submit these items via overnight carrier (non-US Postal Service because of security-related delays in receiving mail from USPS) or by hand delivery to: Corporation for National and Community Service, 1201 New York Avenue, NW, Attn: Next Generation Grants, Washington, DC 20525. These items must be postmarked no later than noon on June 8, 2005. [one day after the deadline] and received at the Corporation no later than **5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on June 9, 2005 (two days after the original deadline)**. Applications submitted by fax or email will not be accepted.

We encourage you to continue to work with the eGrants helpdesk to attempt to get your proposal submitted via eGrants. Corporation Staff will compare your paper/diskette submission against what is submitted in eGrants to ensure consistency. In the case of inconsistency between the paper/diskette submission and the application submitted through eGrants, the paper/diskette version will be accepted.

In the event the eGrants system is not working on the date of submission, the Corporation reserves the right to extend the eGrants submissions deadline. A notice will be placed in eGrants and on our website, notifying all users of the extended deadline. In this case, applicants would need to submit applications via eGrants by the new deadline.

### 4. Intergovernmental Review

This program is not subject to Executive Order 12372.

## **5. Funding Restrictions**

Grants under this program are subject to the applicable Cost Principles under OMB Circulars **A-21, A-122, A-87 or FAR 31.2**.

## **6. Other Submission Requirements**

Applicants must submit all attachments specified in this Notice and application instructions.

## **V. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION**

### **1. Selection Criteria**

In awarding these grants, the Corporation will consider: program design (60%); organizational capacity (25%); and budget/cost effectiveness (15%). Within organizational capacity, key factors must include the organization's demonstrated ability to raise the matching funds and to carry out the greatly expanded or new service efforts. The Corporation will make all final decisions concerning awards and may require revisions to the grant proposal in order to achieve the objectives under this Notice. The selection criteria for the Next Generation Grant competition are located in the Application Instructions on the Corporation website [http://www.nationalservice.org/funding\\_initiatives/index.html](http://www.nationalservice.org/funding_initiatives/index.html).

### **2. Review and Scheduling Process**

Subject to the availability of funds and scheduling requirements, peer reviewers will review new proposals using the selection criteria stated above. Corporation staff will then review those proposals most highly rated from peer review. If the Corporation determines that peer review is not feasible for any reason, Corporation staff will review all proposals using the selection criteria.

### **3. Anticipated Announcement and Award Dates**

We anticipate announcing selections under this Notice by September.

## **VI. AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION**

### **1. Award Notices**

Selected applicants are approved to negotiate with a Corporation program officer for a grant award. During the negotiation period, any issues or questions identified during the review of your application must be satisfactorily resolved before a grant can be awarded. The grant negotiation period may range from three weeks to 2 months, or longer. Upon successful conclusion of grant negotiations, a Notice of Grant Award (NGA) will be issued.

## 2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Administrative requirements are identified in the application package. National policy requirements are noted under Part II of this Notice, Award Information, and are otherwise identified in the application materials.

The applicable regulations and other specific conditions are incorporated in the Notice of Grant Award (NGA). The NGA also incorporates your approved application as part of your binding commitments under this grant.

## VII. CORPORATION CONTACT(S)

This Notice, with the complete application, guidelines and other relevant material, is available on the Corporation's website at: <http://www.nationalservice.org/> under "Funding and Initiatives". The TDD number is 202-565-2799. For further information or for a printed copy of this NOFA and the supplementary information and application guidelines please leave a message at (202) 606-5000 x309, or send an e-mail to [NextGeneration@cns.gov](mailto:NextGeneration@cns.gov).

## VIII. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Corporation will host a series of technical assistance calls to answer applicant questions about this funding opportunity. Applicants are strongly encouraged to participate on the technical assistance calls. The call schedule and sign-up information will be posted by May 2, 2005 at [http://www.nationalservice.org/funding\\_initiatives/index.html](http://www.nationalservice.org/funding_initiatives/index.html). A Frequently Asked Questions document will be developed and also posted on this website.

## IX. NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPLY

In order to gauge the number of applications we are likely to receive, please send an email by May 17, 2005, to [NextGeneration@cns.gov](mailto:NextGeneration@cns.gov), stating that you plan to submit an application for this grant competition. Although submission of the notice of intent to apply is not mandatory, your email will help the Corporation to plan more efficiently for our review. In your email, include the name of your organization, address, contact person, and phone number.



04/27/05

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**Marlene Zakai**  
**Director, Office of Grants Policy and Operations**

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Date